

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SERVICES NPL SITE  
GRIFFITH, INDIANA  
SITE SUMMARY AS OF November 15, 1990

SITE HISTORY

The American Chemical Services NPL site was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in September 1984. The ACS site contains a RCRA "interim status" facility currently undergoing closure proceedings overseen by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. When it operated the facility accepted various hazardous materials, primarily spent solvents, for distillation and eventual resale. The ACS site is composed of three landfilled areas: the "on-site containment area"; the "off-site containment area"; and the village of Griffith municipal landfill. The two containment areas contain numerous buried drums and sludges derived from ACS processes, and contain non-recyclable materials transported to ACS by its customers all during the period from 1955 until 1975. It is reported that the Village of Griffith landfill may have been used by ACS and others for the disposal of various hazardous substances. Other areas at the site include the Kapica Drum area (located outside the operating portion of the facility) and a buried still bottoms pond (located inside the operating facility). Kapica Drum encompasses approximately two acres and formerly housed a drum reclaiming operation which was known to discharge solvents directly to the ground surface. A consent order to perform a RI/FS was signed by approximately 150 former customers of ACS as potentially responsible parties (PRPs) on June 28, 1988. Site work began in late June 1989. The USEPA recently issued a RCRA complaint against ACS, which resulted in a Consent Decree ordering ACS to either comply with RCRA financial assurance regulations by early September 1990, or close the facility. As a result of the decree, ACS ceased accepting hazardous wastes as of September 5, 1990. ACS submitted their hazardous waste closure plan to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management on October 5, 1990 per the federal consent decree.

CURRENT CLEANUP STATUS

Phase I of the RI was completed in early December 1989, with the submittal of technical memoranda to USEPA by the PRPs contractor. Phase I results showed highly contaminated soils in the Kapica Drum area, highly contaminated groundwater underlying most areas of the site, and large volumes of hazardous waste materials within the on-site and off-site containment areas. Phase II RI field work concentrated on determining the extent of groundwater contamination, sampling of residential wells, delineating the volume of highly toxic hazardous substances in the waste burial areas (e.g., PCBs), delineating site wetlands, delineating sediment and surface water contamination, and the extent of waste burial. A limited third phase of site work is scheduled to begin later in November 1990 to delineate portions of the existing groundwater contamination at the site. Both deep aquifer and shallow aquifer wells are expected to be installed. The RI Report will discuss the findings of Phases I, II and III.

ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION

Large tracts of wetlands border the site to the west, southwest, north, and east. Sediment samples have been taken to assess the impact the site has had on these areas. Two aquifers underlie the site, and are separated by a highly impermeable clay layer that averages 10 feet thick throughout. The upper aquifer, which averages 12 feet in thickness, is heavily contaminated with benzene, xylenes and toluene, and halogenated compounds in DNAPL form. Lesser concentrated substances in the upper aquifer include: methylene chloride, chloroethane, phenols, various semi-volatile compounds and trace PCBs near one source area. Upper aquifer groundwater appears to discharge to nearby wetland areas and surface water features, but the extent of discharge and its impact is as yet unknown. Preliminary data shows the lower aquifer to be contaminated on-site, however, residential wells screened in the deep aquifer near the site do not appear to be impacted.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Due to difficulties in scheduling, the submittal of the draft RI report to USEPA has been delayed from September 7, until November 1990. The final RI report which will include all phases of the RI, is expected to be completed by February 1991. The FS report is due to USEPA by Late March 1991. A Record of Decision has been scheduled for the end of June 1992.

All dates are currently projected and do not account for unforeseen site complexities.



# RESPONDENTS TO THE RI/FS CONSENT ORDER

3M Company	Industrial Coatings	Thiele-Engdahl
AMD Industries	Insilco Corp.	Tingstol Co.
Abbott Labs	Intl Minerals & Chem	USX Corp.
Acme Printing	International Shoe	Union Carbide
Acme Steel	J.T. Clark	Union Oil
Adheron Coatings	James River Corp.	Union Tank Car
Aigner Products	John Crane, Inc.	Uniroyal Plastics
Allied Signal	KMS Companies	United Technologies
Amerace Corp.	Kencote Laminations	V.J. Dolan
American National Can	Knowles Electronics	Valspar
American Roller Co.	Lake Salvage, Inc.	Varn Products
Ashland Chemical	Littlefuse, Inc.	Velsicol Chem.
Ashland Petroleum	Lockformer, Co.	W.C. Richards Co.
Atlas Electric Device	Mallinckrodt, Inc.	Western Publishing
Auburn Diecast Corp.	Manta Vincor Steel	Westinghouse Electric
Bagcraft Corp. of Am.	Martin Marietta Corp.	Whirlpool Corp.
Ball Corp.	Matthews Paint Co.	Whiteco Industries
Baxter Healthcare	Midland Div of Dexter Milton	Witco Chemical
Bennett Industries	Bradley Co.	Worum Fiberglass Supply
Borg-Warner Corp.	Mobil Oil Corp.	Zenith Electronics
Breuer Electric Mfg.	Mortell Co.	
Breve Corp.	Morton Thiokol	
Brunswick Corp.	Motorola, Inc.	
Burwood Products	Niles Chemical Paint	
C.P. Hall Co.	Nutrasweet Co.	
CSX Transportation	O'Brien Corp.	
CTS Corp.	Occidental Chemical	
Ceco Corporation	Owens-Corning Fiberglass	
Champion Internatl	PPG Industries	
Chase Products	Packaging Corp of Am Packard	
Chicago Adhesive	Instrument	
Chicago Loop Auto-	Peacock Colors, Inc.	
Refinishing Inc.	Pelron Corp.	
Chicago Rotoprint	Phillips & Martin	
Coca-Cola Foods	Pioneer Paint Prdcts	
Continental Can	Plicon Corp.	
Cudner & O'Connor Co	Pratt & Lambert	
DAP, Inc.	Precision Brand Prdts	
Daubert Chemical Co.	Premier Coatings Inc.	
DeMert & Dougherty	Primerica Corp.	
Denniston, Ltd.	R.R. Donnelly & Sons	
DeSoto, Inc.	Redson Rice Corp.	
Dietzgen Corp.	Refiners Trnspt Reichold Chemicals	
DiversiTech General	Reliable Paste & Chem	
Dixline Corporation	Revere Copper & Brass	
Dreeblan Paint Co.	Rogers Cartage Co.	
E.I. DuPont	Rollprint Packaging	
Eli Lilly & Company	Roy Strom Refuse Removal Service,	
Ericsson Inc.	Inc	
Exacto Products	Rust-oleum Corp.	
Federal Paper Board	S.C. Johnson & Son	
Flint Ink Corp.	Safety Kleen	
Fort Dearborn-	St. Clair Mfg. Co.	
Lithograph	Sherwin Williams Co.	
Freeman Chemical	Sinclair & Valentine	
G.D. Searle & Co.	Smith Victor Corp.	
GCA Corp	Standard T. Chemical	
Gast Manufacturing	Starcraft Co.	
General Am.Trnsprt	Stepan Company	
General Electric	Sterling Engrd Prdcts	
General Motors	Stuart Indstrl Coatng	
Glidden Company	Sullivan Varnish	
Great Lakes Terminal Trnsprt Corp.	T.L. Swint Indstr	
Hitco	Technical Products	
Hugh J. McLaughlin	Teepak, Inc.	
Hydrite Chemical	Teledyne Post	
Hydrosol, Inc.	Texaco Inc.	
Illinois Bronze Paint		

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Office of Superfund

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MESSAGE: ACS Site Summary

Call \_\_\_\_\_ for retransmission.

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